

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

19 JULY 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Peru

a. Civilian elements of all persuasions are now working on plans for a general strike in reaction to the military coup, but we see little chance that they can pry the military loose.

b. The junta has announced that there will be no new elections until next June.

c. Venezuela is taking the lead in calling for an OAS foreign ministers' meeting on the situation. So far, Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, and the Dominican Republic, in addition to the US, have suspended relations with Peru.

2. Nationalist China

Taipei is virtually convinced that one reason for the Chinese Communists buildup in the Taiwan Strait was to throw sand into the works of US-Nationalists relations. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the Nationalists have been put off stride by Peiping's moves and are not sure where they go next. Although there is no good indication of a shift in operational planning, there are definite signs of a lull in preparations for military action against the mainland.

3. Indonesia

a. Subandrio may stick to his promise to Ambassador Jones not to confront the Dutch with an "ultimatum" calling for the immediate transfer of administration in West New Guinea, but this may turn out to be a semantic distinction. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Sukarno later gave Subandrio orders to press hard on this point and to break off the talks in a week unless he gets satisfaction.

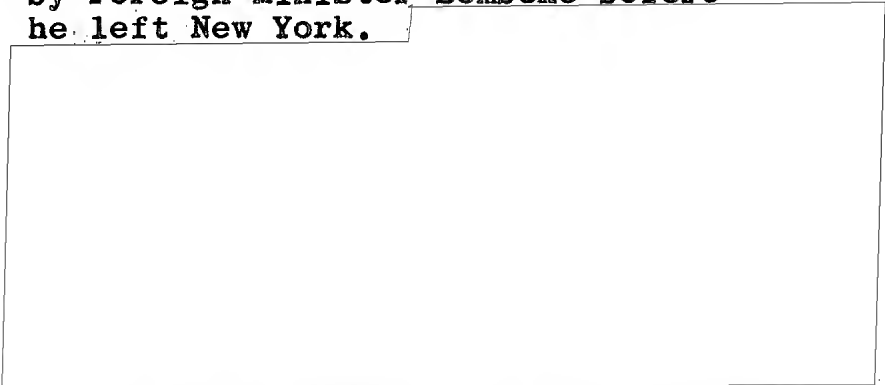
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b. Meanwhile, it has been announced that the Indonesians will play host soon to Mikoyan. He is due in Djakarta on Friday at the head of a team of top foreign office and economic specialists. We assume that he will arrive with some economic enticements for the Indonesians, already way behind in their payments for military equipment, if he gets the right assurances from them on the direction of their foreign policy.

4. Congo

a. UN Congo chief Gardiner flew into Elisabethville late yesterday for a direct confrontation with Tshombé over the previous day's UN-Katangan clashes, but at last word was getting the run-around from Tshombé. No further shooting incidents have been reported from Elisabethville, but the UN was planning to bolster its garrison by 400-500 men yesterday.

b. Ghana, for one, is reacting warily to the request for arms assistance put out to the Casablanca powers by Foreign Minister Bomboko before he left New York. 50X1



c. Bomboko has returned directly to Leopoldville, foregoing his arms-seeking tour because of the uncertain political situation at home.

5. Cuba

a. Raul Castro is back in Havana after two weeks in Moscow, where we believe he was seeking more and better military equipment. The red carpet was out for him when he arrived in Moscow, but he left unheralded, a pretty good sign that the visit was unproductive.

b. In Costa Rica, meanwhile, a group of Cuban exiles have a B-26 bomber, smuggled out of the US and fitted out with a supply of bombs from Guatemala, and are talking in seeming earnest about a raid on Havana. They have selected an oil refinery and an electric power plant as targets.

WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--18 July 1962

No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

We see no indications that the Chinese Communists intend to launch an assault against the major Offshore Islands in the immediate future.

The Viet Cong are improving their capabilities and stepping up their preparations for an increased military effort.

NOTES

- A. The Shah has asked Asadollah Alam, very much the Shah's own man, to try to form a new Iranian government.

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- C. The Albanians, who have been getting the silent treatment from Moscow for several months, seem to be finding this state of affairs unsettling. Earlier this week, Premier Shehu could contain himself no longer and launched a new and biting attack on Khrushchev for bullying Albania with political and economic pressure tactics.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE